The Oregonian.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Orego REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By mall (postage prepaid in advance)—
Dally, with Sunday, per month. \$0.88
Dally, bunday excepted, per year . 0.50
Dally, buth Sunday, per year . 0.50
Sunday, per year . 2.56
The Weekly, per year . 1.56
The Weekly, a months . 50
Dally, per week, delivered, Sunday excepted. 15c
Dally, per week, delivered, Sunday included. 20c

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YESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum tem-TODAY'S WEATHER-Partly cloudy; winds

PORTLAND, MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1903

LOSING CONTROL OF WHEAT MARKET. The United States is a great country and in most cases is entitled to all of the glory that is claimed for it in the way of forcing all other nations on earth to pay tribute to us. We grow more wheat than is produced by any two other countries on the globe, and in the past have been in a position to dominate to a large extent the prices for wheat in the Liverpool market. This past prestige, however, is somewhat dimmed this season, a fact that is overlooked by both farmers and statesmen in this country. Our exports of wheat for the first ten months of the calendar year have declined over 50,000,000 bushels as compared with those for the same period in the preceding year, and the percentage of decrease for the past four months has been heavier than in any of the previous months of the year.

This does not mean that we have not produced a sufficient amount of wheat to enable us to make as good a showing in exports as we made a year ago, or that the foreigners have cut down their consumption of wheat to the extent indicated by the figures. What it does mean is that the foreign buyers have secured the additional 50,000,000 bushels ment against tariff reform, Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, recently ridiculed the days without purchasing food supplies from the outside. Considering the argument he was advancing, the natural inference which the Ohio man sought to convey was that Great Britain could not live 90 days without food supplies from this country. This construction of his remark is the only one that would give it any bearing on the case in point, and the fallacy of such a statement or Liverpool and American markets for the past ninety days, a period mentioned by Mr. Grosvenor in his speech.

Ninety days ago, Walla Walla cargoes were selling in Liverpool market at 32s 6d per quarter. Wheat was selling at 80 cents in Chicago, and a few days later dropped to 77 cents per bushel. Yesterday the Liverpool quotation on Walla Walla cargoes were 30s 6d per quarter, while the Chicago market was m at 82 cents per bushel. Within that pinety days the wheat shipments from the United States have fallen off over 5,000,000 bushels as compared with those of the preceding season for the same period. This shows quite plainly that Great Britain is not only securing plenwithin a period of ninety days, while the Americans advanced prices from 2 to 5 cents per bushel, the Liverpool market actually declined 6 cents per bushel. This condition of affairs could not exist if Great Britain were dependent on this country for wheat to the extent intimated by Mr. Grosvenor. The total wheat crop of the world last year was 2,988,000,000 bushels, and the decrease in shipments from the United States since January 1 was more than made up by increased shipments from India, Argentina and Russia alone.

American wheat has a good reputation in the foreign markets, but this reputation will not induce the foreigners to pay a premium over the prices at which they can secure supplies elsewhere. If the American farmers continue to hold their wheat, high prices may follow in not advance until there is a cessation of the present free selling movement by every other country except the United States. Under these conditions Great Britain can go ahead with her retaliatory embargo if she has one in view without feeling any alarm over having her food supplies cut short. If wheat soars too high in this country, we shall lose our reputation as the granary of be sold or consumed.

An anonymous gun Captain in the Navy in writing in the Army and Navy Journal suggests a method of remedying the desertion evil and of securing an efficient naval reserve, that is interesting. In his opinion the real cause of desertion and of failure to re-enlist at expiration of service is not the pay, the food or the treatment, but the desire of the men to secure a home for themselves before old age sets in. This fallure to re-enlist is a serious loss to | pie a higher appreciation of the merits

the Navy, since it means the substitution of raw for trained and skillful men and a heavy expense in producing good marksmen. His suggestion is that the retirement age for enlisted men must be reduced to one-half of what it is now, and the men be given positions now held by civilians in Government service, such as the lifesaving and lighthouse service, the revenue service, the cus-toms and the Navy magazines and the navy-yards. They could then marry and have homes, but would be where the Government could lay its hands on them in case their services were needed in war time, where now land-lubbers have to be taken and trained.

PLIES AND LIES.

To fish is to prevaricate. The rule is invariable. If Izaak Walton presents an apparent exception, it must be remembered that he was in reality but little of a fisherman, despite the clamor of the fraternity which would push him forward as its chiefest exemplar. Bearing in mind this well-established and thoroughly understood rule, it is with no common or ordinary degree of interest-how easily one falls into the very style of the illustrious author to be considered-that readers will peruse an article on "The Mission of Fishing and Fishermen" by Grover Cleveland in the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post. Mr. Cleveland is a fisherman, and he is not an exception to the rule, for does he not, in discussing this very point, declare that the piscatorial brotherhood has adopted as its unfailing requirement for honorable standing this, regulation.

In essentials-truthfulness; in nonessentials -reciprocal latitude. It is obvious to every one that this attempt on the part of Mr. Cleveland to present such a rule as the crystallization of floating sentiments and moral ideas is a mere subterfuge, and one that will fail to blind even his warmest personal or political friends. "Reciprotials." If the trifling matters of fish, their size and their numbers, be nonessentials, then the fisherman is justified by this alleged regulation. such things are the essentials, and they are far from the influence of the truth. It is evident that Mr. Cleveland himself feels the inherent weakness of his posi-

tion, for he goes on to say: If it is objected that there may be great difficulty and perpiently in determining what are essentials and what nonessentials under this rule, it should be remembered that no human arrangement, especially those involv-ing morals and ethics, can be made to fit all

Our worthy ex-President is wasting many long words on the ineffectual bolstering of an indefensible cause. Let him come forth and freely admit, in swathing polysyllables if he will, that the regulation as to "the degree and kind of truthfulness which an honorable standing in the fishing fraternity exacts" is rather "In essentials-latitude; in nonessentials-latitude again." Let him admit this, and we will agree with him that "one of the rudiments in the education of a true fisherman is the lesson of patience-an admirable virtue-and we will furthermore agree that "in any event, great comfort is to be found in the absolute certainty that the law of truthfulness will be so administered by the brotherhood that no one will ever be permitted to suffer in mind, body, or estate by reason of fishermen's tales.

This may all be admitted, and it may even be conceded that if Mr. Cleveland has attempted too much for his fishing friends he has succeeded in laying down a regulation that might be adopted by his political friends and enemies: In essentials-truthfulness; in no -reciprocal latitude.

KNOWLEDGE OF LIVESTOCK.

No department of agricultural college work is of more importance than that of the merits of individual horses, cattle and other livestock. This feature of the idea of retaliation from Great Britain, course of study is being emphasized in which he stated "could not live ninety many of the Western colleges, and when the new agricultural building was erected at Corvallis two years ago a room was provided on the ground floor where livestock may be led in and the students given practical demonstrations in this kind of work. In the improvement of livestock breeding lies one the most promising opportunities for the development of an industry which brings to this country many millions inference is shown by the action of the of dollars every year in return for exports of stock and dairy products. When the range was free there was need enough for improvement in breeding, but now that settlement is driving the cattle and sheep from the plains, still

greater advancement is necessary. There are many men engaged in a moderate way in raising livestock who, put too much dependence in pedigree. | nearly so strong as it was six months If it can be shown by a long line of ancestry that an animal comes of good stock, that is sufficient. It is true that "blood will tell," but there are exceptions to the rule, and breeders who have blindly tried to intensify a strain have sometimes done so to their sorrow. With the best line of ancestry animals without merit will be produced. While there ty of wheat from other countries, but are men who give too much credit to pedigree, and do not judge enough of the merits of the individual animal. there are a much greater number who place no dependence upon either pedigree or individual merit. These are the farmers who raise scrub stock without making any particular effort to improve their breeds. It may almost be said that to them all cows look alike.

To them one bull is as good as another. That the number of this class of farmers is growing less every year is apparent to every person who travels through the country districts, and for this change we are indebted largely to the annual state fair and the Agricultural College. In teaching the student at the Agricultural College how to judge of the merits of livestock, the instructors not only give the young men a knowledge that will be of practical use to this country, but the prices abroad will them if they ever buy, sell, or raise stock, but they also create in the prospective farmers, business men and mechanics an appreciation of animals of superior merit. And that is something of which we are in need. Every man can tell a well-proportioned animal from one that is ugly in build. But to be able to make this distinction is far short of being able to point out the characteristics which indicate a superior the world, for wheat is grown only to animal or an inferior animal. To the casual observer a cow or a bull may be perfect and yet in the eyes of the ex-

perienced judge be far from worthy of a place in the breeder's stable. Nearly all men, and women, are lovers of good livestock. In the well-formed animal there is a beauty that arouses the admiration of every one, but to the trained eye there is an added beauty which the novice does not behold Through the education of young men at the agricultural colleges of this country there will be spread among the peo-

of good livestock. With this will come a demand for a larger number of su-perior animals, breeders will find more encouragement in more profitable sales and the character of our livestock will be improved. By education the ideals of the breeder will be raised and greater will be the efforts to bring these ideals into realization. A reasonable sum of money would be well spent if it were offered by the State Board of Agriculture as a premium to the young man who should prove himself to be the best judge of livestock in a contest to be conducted at the annual State Fair. Such a premium has been offered for three successive years by the International Livestock Exposition at Chicago, with the result that a very desirable and valuable interest has been

aroused in this branch of agrology. This subject is of particular interest at this time, in view of the convention of the National Livestock Association which will be held in Portland January 12 to 16. At that convention many subjects of great importance will be discussed, most of them pertaining to legislation. Those delegates to the convention whose relation to the livestock industry is that of the breeder will do much to advance their own financial interests if they can add some impetus to the movement for a more general understanding of what constitutes the best product of the breeder's science.

GETTING OUT OF ELDORADO. In Australia, a new and rich country, with oceans as buffers between it and the influence of other nations, with a homogeneous population, without binding customs or constitution, a great field was offered for experiments in government. And there were not lacking politicians to make the experiments. Naturally it was in the direction of socalistic legislation that the new ventures tended, since that was the form of government of which the least was known, and it is in the unexplored

country that Eldorado always lies. Unexampled efforts were made to benefit and incidentally to obtain the gratitude of the workman. Wage boards were established, compulsory arbitration adopted, government industries established, and the incidence of taxation arranged to benefit colonial industries. Manhood suffrage is the rule, and the payment of members has rendered it possible for the choice of the larrikins to take his seat. Thus power is more and more thrown into the hands of the Socialist Labor party, which has practically eliminated the nonunion workingman in New South Wales and in Victoria. The party recently sent a deputation to the government asking that wire netting might be included in the list of state industries, and it insists that the docks needed by Newcastle shall be built by the state, despite the fact that private enterprise stands ready to carry out the work and that the borrowing capacity of the country

is almost exhausted. In view of this it is reasonable to inquire how the Australian regards his country. Legislation designed to improve the lot of the majority should make the country a happy place of abode, and with general prosperity all should be fortunate. One fact is sufficlent commentary upon the policy of establishing state industries and making labor practically the only thing to be regarded in the country. The excess of immigration over emigration in Australia during the last ten years has been 5000, and this in a new country, the only new country in the world, as Mr. Reid. leader of the opposition, pointed out,

that is not attracting population. Australians are steadily leaving their native shores for Canada, South Africa and even the British Isles. Official reports for the first six months of this year show that 16,327 persons left New South Wales alone for ports outside the commonwealth, this number exceeding the ten years from 1891 to 1901 the excess of emigrants from Victoria was 112,579, South Australia 18,219, and Tasmania 1948. The excess of immigrants during the same period into Western Australia was 130,133, Queensland 21,-221, and New South Wales 9243. Lately New South Wales is beginning to share

the fate of Victoria. It is apparent that Australia's experiments have not yet pointed her to a satisfactory way of harmonizing the interests of her various classes of citi-

POPULAR BECAUSE BETTER UN-DERSTOOD.

The conference between the President, Secretary Hitchcock and the Senators from Oregon is likely to disclose that the dissatisfaction with the land policy of the Department of the Interior is not ago. By changing his methods and taking the people into his confidence, Secretary Hitchcock has removed the cause for a very large amount of severe criticism and some of the former opponents of his policy are now his supporters. There has been no change so far as known, in either the general policy of the department or the views of the people of Oregon regarding land matters. There has been a very pronounced change in the Secretary's attitude relative to publicity and a corresponding change in the opinion of the people concerning Hitchcock and his purposes.

No one in Oregon was more vehement than Governor Chamberlain in denunclation of what he understood to be the department's forest-reserve policy. One large tract after another had been withdrawn from entry with a view to the creation of forest reserves, and so far as the public was informed the reserves might be permanently created at any time under the same plan that has prevalled in the past. Governor Chamberlain could see in the formation of these reserves the creation of an immense acreage of "scrip" by means of which syndicates could secure large areas of valuable public lands. The Governor and a large number of citizens of Oregon raised their voices in protest, with the result that Secretary Hitchcock announced in the most positive terms that the reserves would not be permanently created until the lieu land laws had been amended or repealed, so that an unjust exchange system should be no longer continued. Governor Chamberlain expressed his entire satisfaction with this explanation, and the people of the state seem to have no further opposition to the forest-reserve policy. A few months ago there was a gen-

eral suspension of proceedings by which public lands are secured by individuals under the several land laws, and more stringent rules were adopted with a title to public land by fraud. This also caused a protest. Some of the new rules seemed to be so stringent as to make it difficult for even the honest homeseeker to acquire public land. The department has since given assurance how, as long as we individually held the that the rights of the bona fide appli-

cant for public land will not be interfered with. The revelation of gross frauds by which individuals procure land for syndicates, and the disclosure of facts which indicate that land has often been acquired in the names of persons who have no existence, have seemed to convince the people that there is some reason for the adoption of stringent rules. These developments have placed the Secretary of the Interior in better standing with the citizens of Oregon. The people of this state are as firmly opposed as they ever were to the continuance of the scrip system as it new prevails, and they are desirous that every opportunity be given the oona fide settler to secure a home from the public domain. So long as the department pursues a policy such as has been announced by it since the protest went up in Oregon, there will be very little dissatisfaction. Secretary Hitchcock will find that it pays in the end to keep the public informed concerning the

policies he favore in public affairs.

An advance within the past month of

nearly \$1 per ton in ocean freight rates from Portland to the United Kingdom offers further illustration of the beauties of the subsidy system. Idle ships by the score are still strung along the Pacific Coast ports all the way from San Diego to Puget Sound, and yet rates have advanced so that the Oregon producer must pay the shipowner \$2500 nore for carrying a cargo of wheat to Europe than was demanded for the same service a month ago. The French subsidy has rendered this advance pos-When the bounty-earners of sible. France began to experience difficulty in securing cargoes at Ils 3d to 12s in San Francisco, and 15s 6d to 16s 3d in Portland, their owners ordered them out on the ocean blue, where every mile they sailed placed to the credit of the owner a certain amount of subsidy. They sailed in ballast from Portland and San Francisco to Australia, New Caledonia and South America. Some of them started on the 17,000-mile journey around the Horn to France. Others are headed on the long journey to New York. The effect is already noticeable in a material advance in freights. Many of these French ships are owned by British capitalists, and in withdrawing them from the carrying trade they not only earn a bounty by traveling in ballast, but they aid the British ships which are not subsidized to secure higher rates. A concerted movement on the part of the British and French shipowners could result in every French ship affoat being kept on the high seas in ballast earning a subsidy, with the result that rates for the unsubsidized British and German ships would advance to a much higher figure, all of the advance coming out of the producers. Exactly the same "coup" would be possible by American shipowners if they are ever permitted to loot the United States Treasury with a subsidy bill. This is the subsidy system in practice, not in theory.

The recollections of our childhood play us pranks in the matter of considering things "old." This term is significant in many things only within the period of our own experience. This is especially true, perhaps, in the matter of tunes and hymns. If, in our childhood, we became familiar with a hymn; if from our cradles its words set to a certain tune have been familiar to our ears we take it for granted that it is old, and the more impressive it is, the more aged we are apt to consider it. An observant man, speaking upon this subject, recalls how one of his earliest instructors used to criticise Carleton, whose "Farm Ballads" were then popular, for his reference to "old Ortonville." Another old new hymn, relatively speaking, is "Onward, Christian Soldier," the words of which were written in 1865 by Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould. The music which accompanies from some other country. In an argu- in which students are taught to judge that of the immigrants by 2116. During them was composed by Sir Arthur Sullivan shortly after. Operas by the same composer are still deservedly popular and should long remain so, since they are instinct with the element of perpetual youth. A singer with a trembling, cracked voice may be properly characterized as "old," and her retirement insisted upon on this score, but the operas with which the world became familiar through the medium of her voice are of the quality that years cannot impair. He who stands, however, upon the hither verge of the span of human life, dwelling serenely with memories of childhood and youth. may well be excused if in speaking of hymns familiar to his ears in the Sunday school of his boyhood he accounts them "old," forgetting that years do

not make aged things of the spirit. The annual report of the Surgeon General of the Army explodes the dangers of service in the Philippines so far as "venomous bites, stings and wounds" are concerned. In the entire Army there were 535 cases of this sort, with no deaths and only one case so serious as to incapacitate the patient for further service. Of these cases as many originated in the United States as in the Philippines. With insanity, of which there were 186 cases, the showing against the Philippines is more serious, but not so much more so. In the United States 68 cases originated and in the Philippines 114 cases, the rest being scattered among the other outlying possessions The principal form of mental trouble was melancholia, to which soldiers in distant stations are peculiarly subject.

Russia has a railroad, which branches off from the Trans-Caspian line at Merv and leads along the bank of the Murghab River for 196 miles to Kushkiuski Post on the Afghan frontier. By this railroad Russia in a few weeks could pour many thousands of troops along the Afghan frontier within eighty miles of Herat. Henry Norman, in his latest book, asserts that this branch road from Mery to the Afghan frontier is simply a deliberate military measure against Great Britain, and serves only the purpose of facilitating the invasion of India and placing Herat at the mercy of Russia. Possibly this accounts somewhat for the abandonment of the Younghusband expedition.

The Lost "Sacred Issue."

Washington Post.

Late tidings have been received in the press gallery of Colonel Bill Sterrett, of Texas, as original a character as ever put a Washington dispatch "on the wire." In his day here none could more forcibly discourse in a comfortable corner of the gallery about "the sacred issue" and "our peerless leader." These now appear to be

to him fallen idols.

"Give my best regards to the newspaper boys who know me," writes Bill from Dallas, "and to our Congressmen say that it is beginning to look as if we are going to be embarrassed by being compelled to abandon the sacred issue that we forced on the people when we got tangled up on the tariff, because we wanted some of it, and because we did not care to win, any-

SPIRIT OF THE NORTHWEST PRESS

The Latest Epidemic. Harrisburg Bulletin.
The whole Northwest seems stricken with a malignant type of football. However, the teath rate is held at a low per-

Amenities of Puget Sound Cities. Olympia Recorder.

Seattle is to bulld two new school-houses. If she would build two more jails and fill them—she would be on the high ore to respectability

The Airs and the Reality. Woodburn Independent. Portland is growing as it never grew before. From a country town it has taken on metropolitan airs, and is preparing to be in step with a great 1906 Exposition

They're All United.

Woodburn Independent. With his banquet and diplomacy, Sena-

tor Mitchell has accomplished more in one night for the Lewis and Clark Exposition than it would have taken a large body of men to gain in weeks of hard work. The Senator's success has called forth a note of admiration for the man from The Morning Oregonian, which speaks in behalf of the whole state.

Clark County on Easy Street.

Vancouver Columbian. It is really gratifying to note the steady improvement going on all over Clark County. In every direction farms are being cleared and improved, new houses and barns are being constructed, fences built and a general air of prosperity abundant. And why not? Right here is the center of health, plenty and attrac-tive climate, big, red apples and pretty

You're Right, Brother; Stay With It.

Eugene Guard.

There promises to be a bitter fight waged at the coming session of the Legislature over the appropriation for a portage road. It is only once in a long period that an appropriation is made or a law passed for a purpose that will benefit any considerable number of people in the state, and as soon as one is, a cry for its repeal goes up from certain sources—the railroads in this instance.

Ground for More Proceedings.

Pendleton Tribune.

The testimony of witnesses at the Thomson trial reveals some of the practices that have been going on for years in the West in making final proofs for homesteads. Dozens of people in Umatilia County, perhaps, have perjured themselves, as the wires last night save selves, as the wires last night say of Saling and O'Hara, to the loose methods of the land offices, and to others may be attributed equal sin.

Not at All Libelous

Deschutes Echo. There is a rumor going the rounds to the effect that two of our fascinating young women had an altercation in town this week, but we are short of the particulars. It is said, though, that one of the combatants pulled three switches off the other's head and also kicked her in the stom-below the belt. No arrests were made, but if this kind of business is kept up all the parties should be given

Infinite Availability of Echo.

Tacoma Ledger. The Oregonian presents a puzzle, It asks if the United States gives Panama \$10,one of the comment of the sum Pan-ama is bound to pay Colombia's debtors, and how they are to collect the same, adding the comment, "Echo answers, "How?" Most remarkable echo, that. It suggests the story of the minister who in a funeral discourse drew a pathetic pic-ture of the journey from the cemetery to the stricken home, and told how the mourners entering the lonely rooms would say, "Where is father?" to which echo would respond, "He is not here." It seems that echo can be trained to make any remark that suits the occasi

Unequivocal, at Any Rate.

Roseburg Plaindealer. The Celilo portage ratiroad appropria-tion should be repealed upon the meeting of the Legislature in special session a new law of the State of Oregon to assess damages and condemn the land for the Government canal enterprise and end the squabble. What is George E. Chamberlain, Governor of Oregon, doing when he stands in with robbing the taxpayers of the entire state to give an advanthe entire state to give an advan-tage to one corner? Why does he op-pose the Government project and cling most tenaciously to the Cellio portage railroad scheme and bawl like a 2-year-old steer when pulled off from sucking his dam? Fifteen or Twenty Years-Heavens!

The Dalles Chronicle.

There appears to be unanimity of senti-ment in the press of Eastern Oregon regarding the importance of constructing the portage around the obstructions in the river above this city. This should be done to afford temporary relief to the producers of the Inland Empire, and at the same time it would furnish an object lesson that would demonstrate the effect of competition in reducing freight rates. Of course, the canal and locks will be the permanent improvement, and will place transportation rates at the minimum. It may be 15 or 20 years after the Govern-ment work is begun before it will be com pleted, and during that time more than the cost of the road would be saved to shippers by its operation. Every portion of the Northwest is interested in an open river, and the first and most important movement in this direction will be the construction of the portage road by the

How Moody Met Them.

The Roseburg Plaindealer prints a long, inconclusive and impotent screed concern-ing Mr. Moody, which, with some victous editorial comment, is reprinted in the anti-Moody organ, the Dalles Chronicle, of this city. The latter paper also delivers itself of another inexplicit editorial on the same subject. These deliverances are full of insinuations meant to have a libelous effect without incurring libelous responsibilities. To all of these only one final word is necessary: Mr. Moody forehore to defend himself in the newspapers which he was called to appear. He there met his accusers face to face, and sub-mitted his whole case, with the result that upon all the evidence on both sides he was completely vindicated by the find-ings that he had done nothing wrong, much less criminal.

The statement in these articles that he presented any "technical defense" is as far from the truth as the original charge. On the contrary, Mr. Moody, at the ou set, waived all technical objections, d nanded immediate trial, and, as a matter of fact, all evidence offered by the prose-cution even remotely bearing on the case was admitted without objection. More than that, when the prosecution falled to prove even that the Conroy letter was ever in the postoffice, he waived his legal advantage and proved that fact for the prosecution by his own evidence.

This aftermath of the case is only of-fered by those malignants who were responsible for the first attack, and it is not sponsible for the first attack, and it is not to be expected that they will be convinced, though the proof of innocence were as strong as proof of holy writ, and for the very good reason that the proof of Mr. Moody's innocence is at the same time proof of their own condemnation. It was to be expected that the Dalles Chronicle would reprint that column-and-a-half article from the Roseburg Plaindealer as-salling Malcolm Moody. The Chronicle's aim as a journal appears to be to assail

FORGETTING THE BIBLE

Kansas City Star. The time seems rapidly passing when writers can use Biblical quotations without identifying marks. The day after the micipal election the New York Evening Post remarked that "hell was stirred up many victory." This reference to the fourteen chapter of Isalah greatly shocked the Nebraska Independent, which sup-posed that the sedate New York newspaper had suddenly become profane. It protested against such "strenuous" writing in a family journal and the Evening Post was forced to reply: "As religious con-gresses say when they telegraph the Pres-ident, see Isaiah xiv. 3."

Ident, see Isalah xiv, 3."

There are some quotations which it is possible to use without identifying tags. But their number is diminishing from year to year. If it is remarked that "their chariots drave heavily," people smile at the typographical error. When the writer says that certain partitions would got be says that certain partisans would not believe though one rose from the dead, he is by no means sure that his readers will understand the reference. There is much uncertainty in the popular mind as to the source of the quotation: "All that a man hath will he give for his life"—
a sentiment which is made in Job, but
on the devil's authority. Opponents of
the President's policy toward Colombia meanest. have been likening Panama to Naboth's vineyard, doubtless to the mystification of many persons who have not read recently about the assimilation plan that was born in the fertile brain of Jezebel. Lists of Biblical questions put to col-Lists of Biblical questions put to college students within the last few years have disclosed amazing ignorance on things that used to be considered as fundamentals in the training of every young person. Jacob's harsh bargain with Esau, Saul's weird experience with the Witch of Endor, Daniel in the Hons' den and the story of the flery furnace—these and other events narrated in the scriptures have been found to be as your scriptures have been found to be as un-familiar to these young American pagans as they are to the South Sea teler Now it may be submitted that, all re-ligious considerations aside, it will be a distinct loss to English literature if the rich treasure house of biblical allusions be wholly or in part cut off from writers. The incidents recorded are so varied, the language is so distinctive and so nearly perfect that quotations from the scriptures are wonderfully adapted to the en-richment of any literary work. It may be safely asserted that the time will never come when the most striking bibli-cal references will not be generally un-derstood. The Twentieth century Franklin need not fear to compare his country to Joshua, at whose command the sun of Briton and the moon of France stood still. But it seems likely that the essayist of the future will be unable to impart the flavor to his work which his predecessors were able to secur their rich allusions to scripture.

Disintegration of a Republic. Baltimore Sun. Reports continue to come from Colom-

ia of the impending secession of the States of Cauca and Antioquia for the States of Cauca and Antioquia for the purpose of casting their lot with Panama. With the canal digging and the great commerce which the cities of Panama and Colon command by reason of their position on the neck of the continent the new Republic of Panama will doubtless be one of the most prosperous portions of South of the most prosperous portions of South America. At any rate, it will be in a far better plight than Colombia, most of which is inaccessible and lacks every modern method of transportation. Both Cauca and Antioquia would probably find it to their material advantage to join Panama not only on account of its coming prosperity, but because, under the patronage and protection of the United States, it will likely enjoy a more stable government than any of the other South American republics. The secession of these two states from Colombia would leave that country in a position of insig-nificance. The State of Cauca comprises more than one-half of the engire area of Colombia and occupies the entire Facific coast of the republic. The three States of Panama, Cauca and Antioquia are three-fifths of the Colombian territory. and contain more than half the popula-tion. If this secession should take place it might simplify matters for the other six states to secode from Colombia and all of them join Panama. Such a settlement would transfer the seat of govern-ment to Panama, perhaps, and would probably leave the national debt of Colombia suspended, like Mahommed's cof-fin, between heaven and earth, with nothing whatever to rest upon. But this would not make much difference, as the debt, while formidable in bulk, is not serious in value. The external debt, most of which is due to British creditors, amounts to about \$15,000,000. The internal debt consists of issues of paper money which no man can number, being estimated as high as 700,000 peacs, worth 3 or 4 cents on the dollar. It has been the practice in Colombia whenever money is print it or give authority to to print it. Nothing could be more simple, nor could there be an easier way to raise public revenues.

Their Only Course.

St. Paul Pioneer Press. What would the Administration's critics have had it do other than it has done? Having been warned that an insurrection and a revolution were hatching, and being bound by its treaty obligations to keep the railroad open, would it have not been derelict if it had failed to have an ample naval force and body of marines near the scene of action to enforce its rules? Why should an exception be made in this case? And when the people, first of Panama and then of Colon, rose as one body, imprisoned the representatives of Colom-bia and set in motion the wheels of a new government, what course should our Government have pursued? Should it have permitted the 500 government troops at Colon to cross the isthmus and start actwe warfare when it had always conte that belligerents should not use the railway? To have done so not only would have been inconsistent, but would have provoked bloodshed, which, as the event shows, could be avoided. And if it had permitted warfare to begin, what purpose would have been served? Either the Panamese would in the end have won their in-dependence or they would have been brought again under the yoke of Colom-bia. In the former case matters would have stood as they stand today, but with the needless sacrifice of hundreds of lives. In the latter case, the United States would be face to face with the shame of having-by courses inconsistent with its previous interpretations of its treaty obligations-deprived of independence a progressive and intelligent people better able to govern themselves than Colombia is able to govern them.

A . Touching "Appele."

Harper's Weekly The following notice is said to be posted over the almebox of a certain cathedral door in Northern Italy: "Appele to Charitables. The Brothers, so called, of Mercy, asks slender arms for the Hospital. They harbour all kinds of diseases, and have no respect to religion."

To His Conscience.

Robert Herrick. Can I not sin, but thou wilt be My private protonotary? Can I not woo thee, to pass by A short and sweet iniquity?

I'll cast a mist and cloud upon
My delicate transgression, So utter dark, as that no eye Shall see the bugg'd implety. Gifts blind the wise, and bribes do please And wind all other witnesses; And wilt not thou with gold be tied, To lay thy pen and ink saids, That in the mirk and tongueless night, Wanton I may, and thou not write? —It will not be; And therefore, now, For times to come, I'll make this vow From aberrations to live free:

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The News in Colorado. (Proofsheet of Victor (Colo.) Record's Article.) The uncalled-for and unwarranted presence of the militia in this county is due to an outrage upon American citizenship, and the high-handed conduct of Adjutantfrom beneath last night, in the worst General Sherman Bell is rapidly suppressquarters of this city to welcome the Tam- ing those who would prevent rebellion against the state authorities. It is a disgrace to Colorado that this tin soldier should be permitted to arrest those opposed to his arbitrary methods. The miners are the backbone in a rotten and corrupt state, and, while their efforts to obtain justice instead of revenge will not be approved by the sycophantic, they will have the aid of the meanest lovers of jus-

tice. (Same article as amended by censor.) The . . . presence of the militia in this county is due to . . . American citizenship, and the high . . . conduct of Adjutant-General Sherman Bell is rapidly suppressing . . rebellion against the state authorities. It is a disgrace to Colorado that this . . . soldier should be . . . opposed . . . The miners are . . . in a rotten and corrupt state, meanest, . . .

Hereafter Portland's cops will have to be up to the mark, if not up to snuff.

Langley's buzzard is to flap again today, and the poor earth may look out for another bump.

Unfortunately for the provisional government of Santo Domingo it has no canal concession to offer.

The more testimony that is taken in the Dunsmutr case, the less regret for the

dear departed Alexander remains. Governor Peabody, of Colorado, has declared officially that Teller County is in rebellion. The Governor resembles a sea captain who logs as a mutineer every

sailor he knocks down. An enthusiastic and figurative real estate man describes a certain town as the brightest diamond in the "Immaculately spotless" shirtfront of Oregon. My.

but the state is getting flashy. It is not always safe to kick when a newspaper makes a description of the gowns at a play more prominent than its criticism of

the performance. If it happens to be an old play, and the gowns are new, then the news-paper is only doing its duty.—Seattle Times. Even with a new play it is doubtful whether space that might be devoted to millinery should be sacrificed to art.

Berlin, Dec. 5.-It is stated upon high authority that Russia and Japan have come to a final settlement.

London, Dec. 5 .- An open rupture between Russia and Japan is likely to occur at any moment. Russia will not agree to the clause giving Japan a free hand in Congoland. Tokio, Dec. 5.-Nothing is known of any

negotiations here. St. Petersburg, Dec. 5,-Nor here.

One Conklin, of Chehalis, devised a very practical method of retaining the attachment of his wife. He chained her, grappled her to his home with hooks of steel. But these bonds of matrimony had no charms for Mrs. Conklin. She chafed under love's yoke, and applied to the court for relief, which was, for some unknown reason, granted. No evidence was adduced to show that the woman was not Conklin's wife, and is a man to be denied his property rights?

While the breezy uplands of Umatilla continue to produce such lawyers as those who defended Asa Thomson, we need not fear for the future of forensic eloquence. Mr. Hailey, who towered in lofty flight before stooping upon the worthy Mr. Cunningham, said, graphically, of that owner of flocks and herds:

His whickers jumped and fluttered likes the sail of a boat sinking in the Columbia River, when I poked him in the ribs and made him tell the truth

Whiskers have an irresistible attraction for most speakers, but seldom has a set of them been so clearly pictured upon the mental retina as those "jumping and fluttering" appendages of the poked-inthe-ribs Mr. Cunningham.

Centralia's city election is said to hinge upon the twin questions of loose cows and open saloons. Should the advocates of either privilege lose their contest and the others win, what a one-sided affair it would be. How dismal life would be in pastoral Centralia were the saloons nailed up and the cows roaming the streets; or h the saloons were wide open and the streets cleared of cows. But with cows in the streets and saloon doors flung wide, how glorious a thing were life in the lumber town. The Centralian, whistling merrily, would wend his morning way to the nearest joint, have a dram drawn for him by a smiling tapster, and then, with a soothing "so bossy," he would approach the cow upon the sidewalk, mingle a little formaldehydeless milk with his redeye, and have a morning draught that

OUT OF THE GINGER JAR.

Tom-Miss Lowd was in your box party at the theater last night, I heard. Dick-Yes, and everybody else within 50 feet of the box heard, too .- Philadelphia Press.

"Pa," said little Tommy, getting a bright idea, "I can do something you can't."
"What?" demanded pa. "Grow!" replied the
youngster.—Catholic Standard and Times. Husband-What does it matter how plain your clothes are? Beauty, you know, is only *kin deep, and- Wife-And I really would like to make mine sealskin deep just for once.-

Cleveland Plain Dealer. Brown-Binkins claims he isn't the least bit contrary. Green-But he always insists on having his own way. Brown-Yes, that's be-cause he knows his way is better than other people's.-Kennebec Journal.

Bangs-Henderson tells me you invariably give in to your wife in argument with her Bings-That's all right; that's diplomacy, you know. It is the only way I manage to have the last word.—Boston Transcript.

Mrs. Rubbar-That busybody woman next door stood for half an hour in her dining-room today looking into ours. Mr. Rubbar-How do you know, dear? Mrs. Rubbar-Why, I hap-pened to be in our dining-room watching her. -Philadelphia Press.

Aster—I consider it a very ciever idea. I was thinking of making it into an ode. Kaster—Why not a quatrain? Aster—Nonseens!
That would be too short. Kaster—H'm. I den't think any of the editors would consider it so.—Philadelphia Press.

"What did you buy with that money rous uncle left you?" "I bought experience," was the rueful reply. "Spend it all for that?" "My dear, sir, I never was much on bargain. day affairs, and the ordinary price of experience is all that you've got." Chicago Post. "But you know," persisted the wife who was trying to work her husband for a new outfit, "that all women are slaves to fashion."
"True, my dear," replied the heartless husband, "but I'm not the man to give up money for the purpose of encouraging slavery in any form."—Chicago News.

form."-Chicago News. Jenkins-What's the matter, old man? You Jenkins-What's the matter, old man? You look sore. Pheeder-So I am. I wish the Government would externitate these sparrows that overrun the country. Jenkins-How do they bother you? Pheeder-They give me indigestion every time I cat "reed birds" at a rectaurant.-Philadelphia Ledger,